

## Department of the Army, DoD

## § 578.78

must fill a position commensurate with his or her rank or grade during the problem.

(4) For award of the Senior Parachutist Badge, the prerequisite requirements above must be obtained by static line parachuting.

(b) Either graduated from the Jumpmaster Course of the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or the Jumpmaster School of a separate airborne battalion or larger airborne unit, or infantry divisions and separate infantry brigades containing organic airborne elements, to include the U.S. Army Alaska Jumpmaster Course or served as jumpmaster on one or more combat jumps or as a jumpmaster on 15 noncombat jumps.

(c) Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organizations authorized parachutists for a total of at least 24 months.

### § 578.77 Master Parachutist Badge.

To be eligible for the Master Parachutist Badge, an individual must have been rated excellent in character and efficiency and have met the following requirements:

(a) Participated in a minimum of 65 jumps to include:

(1) Twenty-five jumps with combat equipment to consist of normal TOE equipment, including individual weapon carried by the individual in combat whether the jump was in actual or simulated combat. In cases of simulated combat the equipment will include water rations (actual or dummy), ammunition (actual or dummy), and other essential items necessary to sustain an individual in combat.

(2) Four night jumps made during the hours of darkness (regardless of the time of day with respect to sunset) one of which will be as jumpmaster of a stick.

(3) Five mass tactical jumps which culminate in an airborne assault problem with a unit equivalent to a battalion or larger; a separate company/battery; or an organic staff of regimental size or larger. The individual must fill a position commensurate with their rank or grade during the problem.

(4) For award of the Master Parachutist Badge, the prerequisite requirements in paragraphs (a)(1), (2) and (3) of

this section must be obtained by static line parachuting.

(b) Either graduated from the Jumpmaster Course of the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or the Jumpmaster School of a separate airborne battalion or larger airborne unit, or infantry divisions and separate infantry brigades containing organic airborne elements, to include the U.S. Army Alaska Jumpmaster Course, or served as jumpmaster on one or more combat jumps or as jumpmaster on 33 noncombat jumps.

(c) Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organization authorized parachutists for a total of at least 36 months.

### § 578.78 Parachute Rigger Badge.

(a) *Eligibility requirements.* Any individual who successfully completes the Parachute Rigger course conducted by the U.S. Army Quartermaster School and holds an awarded MOS of 43E (enlisted) or 401A (warrant officers) may be awarded the Parachute Rigger Badge. Officers qualify upon successful completion of one of the following courses: Aerial Delivery and Materiel Officer Course; Parachute Maintenance and Aerial Supply Officer Course; Parachute Maintenance and Airdrop Course (officer or enlisted) or Parachute Rigger Course (enlisted). Sergeants Major and Master Sergeants who hold by career progression a MOS of 00Z or 76Z and formerly held an awarded MOS of 43E are qualified for award of the Parachute Rigger Badge.

(b) *Retroactive award.* The Parachute Rigger Badge may be awarded retroactively to any individual who graduated from the Parachute Rigger school after May 1951 and holds or at anytime held an awarded MOS listed in paragraph (a) of this section. Officers must have successfully completed one of the courses listed in paragraph (a) of this section to qualify for retroactive award of the badge. The badge may also be awarded retroactively to any individual who performed as a rigger prior to May 1951 and did not attend or graduate from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School.

(c) *Who may award—(1) Current awards.* Current awards of the Parachute Rigger Badge will be made by the

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Commandant, U.S. Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, VA 23801-5152, and the Commander, USA HRC (§ 578.3(c) for address).

(2) *Retroactive awards*—(i) *After 1951*. Requests for award of the badge from individuals having no current Army status (veterans and retirees) who qualified after 1951 will be forwarded to the NPRC (see § 578.16(a)(3) for address).

(ii) *Before 1951*. Requests for award of the badge from individuals (Active duty, veterans and retirees) who qualified before 1951 will be submitted to the Commandant, U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, ATTN: ATSM-Q-MG (Historian), Fort Lee, VA 23801-1601. Requests must include written justification and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

(d) *Description*. A silver winged hemispherical canopy with conically arrayed cords, 1¾ inches wide, with a band centered on the badge inscribed “RIGGER.”

### § 578.79 Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge.

(a) The Military Free Fall Parachutist Badges identify Special Operations Forces (SOF) personnel who have qualified in one of the military's most demanding and hazardous skills, military free fall parachuting.

(b) *Badge authorized*. Two degrees of the Military Free Fall Parachutist Badges are authorized for award: Basic and Jumpmaster.

(c) *Eligibility requirements*. (1) Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, Basic. To be eligible for the basic badge, an individual must meet one of the following criteria:

(i) Have satisfactorily completed a prescribed program of instruction in military free fall approved by the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWC&S); or

(ii) Have executed a military free fall combat jump.

(2) Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, Jumpmaster. To be eligible for the Jumpmaster Badge, an individual must have satisfactorily completed a prescribed military free fall jumpmaster program of instruction approved by USAJFKSWC&S.

(d) *Approval authority*. (1) The Commander in Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command is the approval authority for award of these badges.

(2) The Commanding General, USAJFKSWC&S is the approval authority for award of the badges to qualifying personnel upon their graduation from USAJFKSWC&S Military Free Fall Parachutist basic and Military Free Fall Parachutist Jumpmaster courses.

(3) *Retroactive award*. Special Operations Forces personnel who qualified in military free fall prior to October 1, 1994 must obtain approval prior to wearing the Military Free Fall Parachutist Badges. Requests for award of the badge will be submitted in writing to Commander, U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, ATTN: AFJK-GPD-SA, Fort Bragg, NC 28307-5000. Applications will include the following:

(i) Name, rank, SSN, and MOS;

(ii) Copy of official jump record, DA Form 1307 (Individual Jump Record), and any other supporting documents (that is, graduation or qualification certificates).

(4) *Veterans and retirees*. Veterans and retirees may request update of their records to show permanent award of the badge by writing to the NPRC (§ 578.16 (a)(3) for address). Requests should include copy of official jump record, DA Form 1307 (Individual Jump Record), and any other support documents (that is, graduation or qualification certificates).

(e) A bronze service star is authorized to be worn on all degrees of the Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge to denote a soldier's participation in a combat parachute jump. Orders are required to confirm award of this badge. A soldier's combat parachute jump credit is tied directly to the combat assault landing credit decision for the unit to which the soldier is assigned or attached at the time of the assault landing. Should a unit be denied air assault credit, no air assault credit for purpose of this badge will accrue to the individual soldiers of that unit. Each soldier must physically exit the aircraft to receive combat parachute jump credit and the Military Free Fall